Between the Lines

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Featuring reports on inside trends, forecasts of significant developments, and other matters pertinent to Christian thinking in the field of economics, labor, social strife, and international affairs.

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Labor and the War

Touched off by the coal, steel, and railroad wage controversies, the papers and news magazines have been carrying on a smear campaign against labor, branding it unpatriotic, and accusing it of chiselling and war sabotage. This is part of a deliberate, well planned "stop labor" campaign being waged by anti-labor forces in the country in an effort to check the continued advance of unionism in American industry.

Because of the practice of labor unions to shelter racketeers in their leadership ranks, and because labor organizations refuse to submit to the same regulations of finances and membership that control other departments of organized American life, there are no doubt some legitimate grounds for this anti-labor sweep that has been pushed, under "forced draft," through the nation's press.

Post War Dynamite But don't be misled by the idea that this anti-labor campaign will achieve any lasting results in the way of weakening labor's political and economic position. The situation is full of dynamite for the post war world, politically and economically. *Between the Lines* maintains dependable listening posts in labor's ranks and watches carefully the labor press. There is enough gross and malicious deception in the anti-labor campaign to create a bitterness and hatred in the hearts of millions of workers,—which in America means millions of middle class citizens—that will give this country years of the most severe labor strife it has ever known.

Important Points Here are the points every thinking Christian layman, employer or employee, *must* remember: First, much of the present and recent labor-wage strife has been caused by the administration's blundering in trying to play up labor's gains for voting strength. Does anybody remember today that Madame Perkins is Secretary of Labor and that her office should be the axis of labor relations? For ten years her office has been buried under vote-getting rig-ups that all seem now to have collapsed in the President's lap.

Second, as we have pointed out before, the press attacks labor and plays up labor's faults, but plays down or ignores entirely the great profits made, even after taxation, by the great industrial monopolies that have cornered over 70 per cent of the war goods production.

Labor, becoming more consciously aware of its strength, will not subside in its demands unless a more equal distribution of profit and production is made, and greater proof of sharing and planning with management has been achieved.

Indian Famine

In terms of human suffering and misery, the biggest story in the current scene continues to be the famine in India. The stark shame of this situation is that while it is admitted that approximately 100,000 people are dying weekly in India, London

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NEARLY ALL HISTORIANS admit that greed has been the moving force behind almost every war. This present conflict is no exception. No peace plan can offer anything but dreams and propaganda until it faces the evil of selfishness and greed in men's lives. A great secret struggle is now going on behind the world diplomatic scene between those who want to use the approaching victory for their personal and nationalistic gains and those who want a just and Christian peace. At the present moment, greed seems to be in the ascendancy. Against such trends the Christian mind cannot refrain from protest. If we obey those who would have us keep silent, we are forsaking Calvary and joining Judas.

Rubber Cartel at Work

You will remember that a year or more ago we reported to you the inside story of the world rubber monopoly of the Dutch and British imperialists, and told how this monopoly, to guard its profits, prevented the United States government from laying up a stockpile of rubber. The United States was forced, therefore, not only to invest billions in the development of synthetic rubber, but also to divide its meager rubber supplies with those who had caused the rubber shortage. These facts, which we gave our readers months ago, are now widely recognized in all official circles, but a new and equally disturbing situation is developing in the approaching post war rubber situation.

New Facts Here is the story which is quite generally being suppressed:

1. The Dutch and British rubber monopolists are now working out plans *for a complete recovery of their strangle hold of the world rubber production.* This plan includes coordinating American synthetic production in their cartel.

2. *High officials of the American State Department are cooperating with the foreign rubber monopolists although it means the sabotaging of the interests of the common American people.*

The American tire manufacturers are opposed to the foreign monopoly and would fight it if they could, but the Wall Street investment world has common interest with the monopoly on an investment basis. As you know, most great Wall Street banking houses have important branches in London, with investments there that are interwoven with British investments. These powerful interests control much of our State Department.

Many Washington circles know that the widening split between Vice President Henry Wallace and the President, as well as between Wallace and the State Department crowd, has been primarily over this and similar issues. Also, the shameful betrayal of Sumner Welles was due largely to this question as well as to the cooperation with Russia issue.

3. The rubber monopolists have implemented their plans by the organization of an international Rubber Regulation Committee which will control rubber production, price and distribution. *The plot has been to prevent the United States from having an influential place on this body; in this plot the State Department is fully cooperating.*

Newspaper Comment Not only has this information come from our own Washington sources, but, on January 2, the *New York Times* carried a story substantiating this report. Said the *New York Times*:

"Inasmuch as recent steps to get official United States representation on the consumers' advisory panel of the international [rubber] group have been unsuccessful due to the State Department's unwillingness to appoint such a representative, observers saw 'some ticklish juggling' in the setting up of the new committee. As the world's largest consumer and foremost producer of the synthetic product, the United States, it was said, will demand voting powers on the group second to none."

The conflict of ideals which is involved in this war are real, i.e., Nazi and Japanese militarism versus what measure of Christian democracy we have achieved. All the powers of our billion dollar propaganda machine are concentrated on high lighting this conflict of ideals. But under the surface, the conflict of economic rivalries and chicanery is also real; its presence is ardently and continuously suppressed. There can be no lasting peace until the people know.

China's Viewpoint Censored

Lin Yutang's widely read book, "Between Tears and Laughter," which spoke harshly of western imperialism, was soundly denounced by Washington and London defenders of white supremacy in Asia. The famous Chinese philosopher and writer was accused of misrepresenting the official attitude of the Chinese government. High authorities in our government and State Department, who are giving full cooperation to the use of American arms to save Dutch, French and British imperialism, call Mr. Lin uncomplimentary names, claiming that his viewpoint does not voice China's official attitude, particularly that of Chiang Kai-shek. Lin Yutang's book was all but suppressed by the livid, official denunciators.

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Indian Famine

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(with the cooperation of many Washington officials) continues strenuously to endeavor to suppress all the news of the famine.

If 500 in a Polish village die at the hands of the Nazi maniacs, a million dollars is spent to spread the story for war propaganda purposes, but if 500,000 die in India, a million is spent to suppress it.

The offer of Canadians and Australians to give thousands of tons of wheat to ease the Indian famine was refused, according to I. F. Stone, Washington correspondent for a New York newspaper. The British Secretary of State for India, Leopold Amery, explained the refusal on the ground that there was no available shipping. Mr. Stone states that Washington shipping authorities admit they could easily arrange transportation for the wheat, but that the chief issue is a political one which must be solved by London.

Mr. Stone also reported that a year ago American labor organizations first urged American and British authorities to do something to ease the Indian food situation and the shipping problem connected with it, but have been ignored.

On the other hand, it is significant to note the uproar of protest and denunciation which is being raised by the English people against their tory government for its blundering in India, and its callousness in regard to the resulting suffering.

Indian Offer Rejected

In propaganda sent us from London, we are told that freedom cannot be given India because of Moslem-Hindu non-cooperation. A report recently got past censors exposing this falsehood. At the thirty-first conference of the All-India Moslem League, its president, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, told 50,000 members and visitors that the league, responding to pleas for Indian cooperation, had offered the British Government help in winning the war and had requested, in return, a share in the government of India. Mr. Jinnah stated that the British government rejected this offer of cooperation.

Deadly as Bullets

As we have reported to you before, increase in venereal infection is doing just about as much damage to our army in England as German bullets are doing to the army in Italy. The main difference is that the high command is able to do something about the Nazis but can't do much with the British authorities in London.

New reports received from London give two reasons for the continuance of this source of infection: Fearing the outbreak of disturbances if prostitutes should be put to work beside British wives and mothers, selection officials do not conscript prostitutes for war work or military service. Further-

China's Viewpoint Censored

(*Continued from first page*)

Now the news is leaking out around Washington that the new book by China's Generalissimo, Chiang Kai-shek, confirms what Lin Yutang said, that the western imperialists of London and Washington are making this war a war for white supremacy. Also it is authoritatively reported that Washington and London are forbidding a translation of the book into English.

While we fight a war for freedom of speech, as well as freedom of man, *we are not to be allowed to know even what one of our Allied leaders thinks of us and the war he is fighting with us.*

It might be well to add that the book *will be translated into Russian.*

CIO Makes Southern Gains

Several years ago northern industrialists decided to move South to escape increasing labor difficulties, avoid unionism and benefit by what seemed like an inexhaustible supply of cheap labor. Millions of dollars were spent moving heavy machinery and building factories, but for some inexplicable reason, these industrialists did not guess that a CIO organizer could pack his extra shirt and socks in a brief case and travel South too.

The CIO organizers did move South, the war came, the inexhaustible supply of cheap labor vanished. Today, as we have reported to you from time to time, Southern labor, Negro and white, is being rapidly organized.

One of the most recent significant labor union victories has been the invasion of the great tobacco industry, formerly deeply-rooted in the non-unionism and cheap labor tradition of the South. After two years spent in organizing the workers of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the CIO won bargaining rights by a two to one vote.

The opposing votes were cast by the company union which had been organized by the tobacco company itself sometime ago in an attempt to forestall the invasion of national organized unions. The company union, backed by the tobacco trust's millions, fought the CIO through legal action, twice securing court injunctions restraining the NRLB from holding the election. But when the election finally took place, the CIO won by a very comfortable margin despite company opposition.

Tribute to Missionaries

It is not often that we hear words of praise for the missionary from newspaper men, but George E. Sokolsky, who has lived long in Asia, recently wrote these words:

"I know that many at home criticise and ridicule them [the American missionaries] and speak of the impudence of Americans going over to China 'to force their religion down the Chinaman's throat.' But those who speak that way do not know the truth. The American missionary has been an apostle of friendship.

"His services to the Chinese people cannot be measured by the converts he has made, but by the love that the simple people of that country have for the United States. These missionaries have healed the sick and taught the young and offered friendship and love, even when they were attacked. In the days of 1925 to 1927, when the American missionaries were being driven before Chinese communist hordes and when some even were killed, most of them rejected armed protection and stood by the revolutionists who were attacking them. It was a rare example in all human history of turning the other cheek.

"The American missionaries, Catholic and Protestant, fitted themselves for work in those Asiatic countries. They studied the native languages and dialects and the habits of the people. Many of them taught in those languages. They have adjusted their personalities to the Asiatic environment to which they consecrated their lives. What are they to do now?

"It is hard for stay-at-home Americans to understand that none of these people can hate their old friends. And they will want to go back when this war is over. Some will find their way back. The simple people of any Asiatic country are gentle and kindly, except when aroused over some question of 'face' which is really dignity. Then they become hysterical and do mad deeds.

"But there will be [among repatriated missionaries] more memories of warm friendships and happy human relationships than there will be of torture in concentration camps. And as distance in time and space sets them farther away from the last year or two, they will remember more of the last twenty or thirty years. The Asiatic is a warm personality who takes friendship seriously. He will always be missed by anyone who has ever known him intimately."

Japanese Good Colonizers

Here's the sort of thing that newspaper men uncover but which the public seldom sees. The Japanese, by clever psychology, have so played on the race antagonisms of conquered lands, that Far Eastern peoples prefer them, as rulers, to the British and Dutch. Such is the opinion of Ramon Lavalle, former Argentine diplomat in Tokio, who was interviewed recently by New York newsmen.

Mr. Lavalle believes Prime Minister Churchill's declaration that he did not be-

disturbances if prostitutes should be put to work beside British wives and mothers, selection officials do not conscript prostitutes for war work or military service. Furthermore, prostitution is not a legal offense in Britain and prostitutes cannot be arrested except on a charge of soliciting. In such a case the man solicited must make a complaint and appear in court the next day. The London prostitute, therefore, is singularly free to pursue her dangerous activities.

American military police take every precaution possible. They try to prevent suspected prostitutes from gathering near leave centers, or, if they see a soldier with such a girl, they ask to see the soldier's pass, manoeuvering in a way that gives the girl a chance to clear out. On the whole, however, the military police are severely handicapped by the existing London laws which, while they do not encourage prostitution, certainly do nothing effective in the way of stopping it.

Nazis Suffer Remorse

We often hear people say the Germans all must be bad people or their soldiers wouldn't obey the orders of Nazi leaders who command them to torture and execute helpless people. An inside look at significant details in connection with the relationship between Nazi leaders and those who have been compelled to execute their brutal orders, can be found in a report by a Swedish journalist, Arvid Fredborg, who was until recently a Berlin correspondent for a Stockholm newspaper.

Says newsman Fredborg: "At least 2,000,000 Jews must have been executed, and certainly 1,000,000 Poles . . . This mass slaughter has been carried out in a terrible way. Men, women, children have been forced to dig graves and have then been machine-gunned. At other times they have been gassed in special chambers . . . These details have come to light in various ways.

"Blackguard troops are carefully chosen from the most brutal elements and are gradually trained to increasing harshness. At first they are sent to fetch Jews for forced labor, cleaning streets, shovelling snow. Then later the troops are allowed to take part in mass executions.

"Many have refused to do this and have been shot or sent home under threat of what will happen to them and their families if they squeal. Others have suffered nervous breakdowns and have been sent to lunatic asylums.

"Time and time again doctors have had to be summoned for soldiers on leave who have suffered attacks by hysteria, sleeplessness or delirium tremens (men in firing squads often drink before executions and many of them are constantly intoxicated). 'I can't stand it any longer—I see only blood in my sleep,' said one young Austrian to his doctor. There are thus a number of cases where people have broken down and told of their terrrible experiences."

THE FLIER'S FAITH

Men who fly find themselves believing in God,—serenely and completely. It is a faith they have gotten without argument or conclusive debate. It is a quiet conviction that grows upon them as they ride the clouds. One flier, writing to his family, put it in these words: "It seems a fellow just gets to realizing God is there—all around us—because such beauty and vastness could not otherwise be understood. You can't argue with a sunset that is so immense and beautiful that it makes the whole Fortress crew speechless. We get so we sort of understand God and feel He is real--because there is such overwhelming evidence all around us." Besides such words as these, just think what a pitifully earth-bound thing a man becomes when he creeps along the ground and says, "There is no God."

Cartels Admit Monopolistic Policies

The Justice Department is trying to free a vital material from monopolistic control, and some interesting information has thereby come to light. The use of titanium dioxide, an essential ingredient in paint, is, says the Anti-Trust division of the Department of Justice, being restricted by a world-wide cartel, the American members of which are National Lead Company, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., and Titan Company, Inc. Although titanium ores are found in abundance, the manufacture of this product, so important to the war effort, (the government requires by far the greater portion of paint manufactured in the entire country), is limited in order that the cartel may maintain a high profit level.

In fact, according to newsman Frank Hanighen, a spokesman for the cartel has described the plan quite thoroughly in these words: "The whole purpose of the cartel is to obtain a monopoly of patents, so that no one can manufacture it (titanium) excepting the members of the cartel and so can raise the prices by reason of such monopoly to a point that would give us much more profit on our present tonnage, but also prevent a growth in tonnage that would interfere with their greater profits in lithophone (a competing but inferior product)."

The international aspect of the cartel, declares the Department of Justice, in pre-Pearl Harbor days, required American firms to aid the Japanese evade a British embargo. A government representative explained, "Because of German participation in the Japanese Titanium Company, the British government refused to permit titanium from Travancore, India, to be exported to Japan in the fall and winter of 1940-41. Titanium was badly needed in Japan and the Japanese government had not permitted any titanium pigments to be exported for a long time. Knowing this, and in spite of the fact that the situation in this country was very serious because of the disruption of shipping and inadequacy of domestic supplies, nevertheless the National Lead Company shipped 700 tons to Japan on March 9, 1941, thus aiding the Japanese evade the embargo which the British had with good cause placed on sales to Japan."

The Department of Justice is bringing charges against the cartel on six counts: 1, The exorbitant price of titanium and its restricted use due to monopolistic control exercised by a world-wide cartel; 2, The placing of American firms in a position where they felt obliged to help Japan against the wishes of the British government; 3, The aid given by American members of the cartel to the German I. G. Farbenindustrie by attempts to protect German-owned patents in this country at the outbreak of war; 4, The misuse of patents and the payment of large sums to potential competitors to keep them out of business; 5, The dictation by the German I. G. Farben of terms under which American firms might do business; 6, The interlocking power gained by the fact that members of the titanium cartel, such as du Pont, Imperial Chemical Industries, I. G. Farben, are also members of other international cartels which control related industries.

kio, who was interviewed recently by New York newsmen.

Mr. Lavalle believes Prime Minister Churchill's declaration that he did not become the "King's first minister to witness the breakup of the British empire" has been used by the Japanese to such good effect that no mere statements by British and Dutch governments promising freedom to their former colonies will be believed. Mr. Lavalle tells of the Japanese program to win the collaboration of the natives of Burma, French Indo-China, Hongkong and the East Indies, through friendliness, offers of autonomous rule and cooperation. He states that the Japanese actually have been granting more freedom to the natives than Britain or the Netherlands permitted.

The race question is played for all it is worth, with the white man portrayed as the devilish ruler, and the Japanese, of course, on the side of the yellow and brown man. Further evidence of this propaganda line was given by a Chinese industrialist who stated that a large proportion of the Chinese factories in Hongkong were left in the control of their owners. He also told of the use the Japanese are now making of a fine Hongkong hotel. Under British rule it had been restricted to white people and upper class Chinese. Now the Japanese have made its splendors available to all classes.

This obvious but telling propaganda, bringing into sharp relief the contrast between white rule and Japanese rule, is no doubt being carried out in every Japanese occupied land where the cooperation of the natives is vital to Japan's war effort.

Mr. Lavalle said that the Japanese are building an empire of a billion people with unequalled natural resources. He feels that the United States drastically underestimated the power and resourcefulness of Japan's armed forces and that it is now making the same mistake in regard to Japan's abilities as colonizer and administrator.

Laxatives Can be Fatal

Thousands of people have died from complications resulting from the use of popular brands of cathartics at a time when symptoms indicated appendicitis. However, it has been necessary for the government to crack down to make the advertisers of these potions recognize the dangerous effects of their unethical, irresponsible statements. The Federal Trade Commission has been doing excellent work in counteracting misleading statements of laxative manufacturers.

E. R. Squibb & Sons, makers of "Granaya with Cascara," a laxative preparation, have recently been charged by the FTC with making false claims for their product in their advertisements. "Granaya with Cascara" is described as effective treatment for chronic and stubborn cases of constipation but the FTC states that it is "potenially dangerous when taken by one suffering from abominal pains, cramps, nausea, or other symptoms of appendicitis" and that the Squibb advertisements do not make this danger sufficiently clear.

Non-Violence Among Madmen

Often have we heard that when the world is full of madmen, the only thing left for us to do is to resort to violence. A most impressive and practical opportunity to test this theory, which is accepted by most Christians, has fallen into the hands of conscientious objectors who have been placed in mental institutions as guards and caretakers to alleviate the deplorable conditions caused by the manpower shortage. Mental institutions have been particularly hard hit because, during a war time boom, men will not work for the generally low wages at the unpleasant tasks necessary in the care of the mentally afflicted.

The conscientious objectors have found themselves thrust into rooms together with a large group of violent madmen. Former guards had traditionally carried clubs for discipline and self-protection. "Now," said the new guards, "here is our chance to see if our faith and ideas *are* practical. Are *we* impractical or is the rest of the mad, bloody, sad world impractical?"

Read the remarkable report of one of these young men as released through the Fellowship of Reconciliation:

"In the institutions in which I worked there were attendants who used violence. A number were heartless and brutal. Others ruled by fear but seldom really hurt a patient. It was obvious that the hospital authorities were well informed of what was going on, but to fire a man because he almost certainly broke a patient's arm, as in one case I helped to treat, would leave the institution that much more undermanned. In the face of manpower shortages, replacements are impossible.

"As a matter of record, no patient is ever injured in such a hospital except by 'accident' or as 'the result of a fall.' Strangely enough when the COs were introduced into one of the hospitals the number of 'accidents' decreased 40 per cent in three months' time!

"One conscientious objector assigned to the violent ward refused to take the broomstick offered by another guard. When he entered the ward the patients crowded around asking, 'Where is your broomstick?' He said he thought he would not need it. 'But suppose some of us gang up on you?' The CO guessed they wouldn't do that, and started talking about other things. Within two or three days the patients were seen gathered around the unarmed attendant, telling him their troubles. He felt much safer than the guard who had only his broomstick for company.

"Francis was one of three hundred patients in a big day-room. He would go into tantrums if he couldn't get his own way and would scratch and bite anyone who attempted to control him. Sometimes another patient inadvertently would get in his way and Francis would bite his ear. This was no gentle bite. One patient had a piece of ear an inch long hanging down as a result of such an encounter. I tried earnestly but unsuccessfully to reach Francis. One of my hands still carries a scar from his scratching and he almost had my hand in his mouth more than once, grabbing it to try to bite it. No one on that shift was able to make any headway with him. Then came another shift and a CO who greeted Francis with a cheery word and an arm thrown around his shoulder. There were no tantrums all morning.

"Just before lunch, however, it looked as though we were in for trouble again. Francis was trying to say something but no one was able to make out his mumblings. Francis' face began to work and he trembled all over. The CO put a hand on his shoulder: 'Wait a minute, Francis. I didn't understand what you were telling me. Say it again more slowly.' Francis tried again. 'Oh, you want your clothes fixed?' Francis vigorously nodded his head. The CO fixed the offending apparel so it would cause no more trouble. Then he put his arm across Francis' shoulder, drew those great teeth down to his ear so as to hear him better, and visited with him for fifteen minutes. It struck me that if there was one safe ear in that room it was the ear of the man who was Francis' only friend.

"Another patient was a big husky who constantly threatened to kill people. He was most reluctant to take off his clothes at night. The first night an attendant, terrifying but not really brutal, took thirty minutes of divided attention between him and other patients getting him undressed. First he swore at him, then beat him with a towel, and finally whaled him over the head and back with the soft part of the broom. Actually the man was not physically hurt, but he was frightened half to death. Finally he gave in and undressed. For the next two days I cultivated this man without appearing to make much headway, but the third night, merely by talking to him, I was able to get him completely undressed in less than five minutes of fluctuating attention.

"In one ward when a working patient charged me with his mop, I smiled at him with as genuine a show of interest as I could muster and said, 'Well, Joe, what's the matter now?' He stopped short, rubbed his eys, shook his head like a dog shaking off water, and returned to his mopping without a word. I was not there long enough to win the degree of friendliness with him that one of the other COs had acquired, but it was interesting that that attendant was never threatened with attack.

"Most of the mental hospital COs are genuine pacifists, convinced that there is a force of good will more powerful than violence and more permanent in its gains for the individual and for society. They want to put their faith to work at a point of real need and welcome the disagreeable and often dangerous work of the mental institutions. It is noteworthy that I heard not one complaint about the work from any of the more than a hundred men with whom I worked in the hospitals."

War Impedes Scientific Progress

Some time ago *Between the Lines* advised you that top flight scientists were exploding the "good out of evil" myth regarding the advances made in scientific achievements and discoveries during war time. We told you then that "war definitely and drastically impedes the forward move of science."

Now we have fresh evidence that our previous report to you was based on fact. Speaking to the New York University Institute on Post War Reconstruction, Dr. Frank B. Jewett, vice president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, said: "Progress in certain fields of scientific knowledge has been offset by a virtual cessation of research work in others that are not considered essential to the war. In the main it has been an intense utilization of accumulated knowledge and skills for a particular limited objective, and much of the result has little prospective use outside the domain of warfare."

Dr. Jewett stated that although the war has resulted in many new inventions, the "conditions which are mandatory for general scientific progress" have disappeared and that only a very few technical discoveries since the war, such as radar and penicillin, will have peacetime uses.

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